

CARDIFF CITY SQUEEZED through to the third round of the F.A. Cup against gallant non-League Wycombe Wanderers at Ninian Park—and it was that man Tony Evans again who got the lone winner—his 11th goal in 14 games. City dominated for long periods but they had several scares as Wycombe came fighting back.

City gave their new pre-match wave from the centre circle to a crowd boosted to around the 10,000 mark by a contingent of about 1,000 Wycombe fans, crammed noisily into the enclosure.

Brian Lee, manager of the reigning Rothmans Isthmian League champions, had promised that his side would play attacking football and not be content with trying to force a replay on their notoriously sloping Loakes Park ground.

The Buckinghamshire side kept to their word by going at City from the kick-off. They did the lion's share



CARDIFF CITY  
Evans ..... 43min.

## MAN OF MATCH



ADRIAN ALSTON

of the attacking in the first 15 minutes, aided by poor defensive distribution from City, and only the unfriendly woodwork denied them a 10th-minute lead.

Wanderers' skipper Keith Mead made two timely headed clearances in the first few minutes, one from a Mike England free kick neatly headed on by Adrian Alston. A flicked-on header at the near post by Tony Evans four, a sixth-minute Phil Dwyer centre posed no problems for Wanderers' keeper, John Maskell.

Then Willie Anderson struck his cross hopelessly wide a minute later, after Alston and Livermore had combined to put him in the clear.

But City gifted Wycombe with too much possession with faulty passes, notably from Albert Larmour and Freddy Pethard, a replacement at left back for the injured Clive Charles.

The visitors showed a willingness to push forward from midfield in support of their three front men, and carved two chances within 60 seconds.

The first came after nine minutes from a clever throw-in rise, John Delaney dummed the throw from Kennedy for Geoff Anthony to gain possession well inside City's penalty area.

The Swansea-born raider—

## KARL WOODWARD REPORTS

### TEAMS

Cardiff City: Irwin, Dwyer, Pethard, Reece, England, Larmour; Buchanan, Livermore, Evans, Alston, Anderson, Sub.: Gales.

Wycombe Wanderers: Maskell, Birdseye, Bullock, Mead, Delaney, Reardon; Anthony, Kennedy, Evans, Hollifield, Horseman. Sub.: Alexander.

Referee: Mr. Leslie Slapser (Paignton).

an arrival with City 10 years ago—turned sharply to hit an angled left-footed drive that rebounded off the back of his team-mate Michael Hollifield.

Bill Irwin had to leave his line smartly to smother the rebound at the feet of Tony Horseman.

With their next attack Wycombe struck a post. Llan-ell-born Dylan Evans picked up an accurate through ball from Horseman to power a fierce left-footed drive on the turn from 12 yards, the ball smashing the base of an upright before cannoning clear.

City, warned against over-confidence against a side good enough to eliminate League clubs Newport County and Bournemouth in the last two F.A. Cup competitions, responded to the let-off with a right flank break.

Evans linked with Gil Reece, but the return cross by the midfielder eluded Evans at the near post, and Alston, moving in behind him, just managed to push the ball over his bar.

Three forwards lined up on City's goal-line for each of from Reece, this time a high flag kicks, but the pressure was turned over the bar sure was relieved when by Maskell under pressure from Alston.

City opened up Wycombe's defence again minutes later, Livermore slipping through a shared pass for Buchanan but his header lacked authority and was saved by three defenders. On the second occasion he reached the by-line to cut back a low cross intended for co-striker Evans but it was intercepted by Delaney.

Alston roamed to the left to figure in a promising build-up with Anderson, concluded by Buchanan scooping a left-footed drive wide. Irwin had a hopeful 25 yard ground shot, from a well worked free kick, safely covered on the hour, but it was City who began to come to Horseman when Irwin failed to gather Hollifield's defence.

One 34th-minute raid, involving Evans and Hollifield, offered a half chance as City who began to come to Horseman when Irwin failed to gather Hollifield's defence.

But Horseman, searching for his sixth goal in a 14-year-career with Wycombe, fired hopelessly wide as England moved to cover.

From Wycombe's next attack Irwin was at full stretch to punch clear a cross from Evans, Willie Anderson, rated City's danger man by Wycombe's manager after the winger's sparkling short-

### From Page One

ing at Millwall last week was generally marked by two opponents.

In the 35th minute he was only inches outside the penalty area when he was sandwiched by Birdseye and Delaney as he tried to squeeze past them both.

The free kick came to nothing, and Anderson began to roam to the opposite flank to escape the close attentions. Reece tried to prize openings with several determined breaks on the right. Evans chested down one cross, but was dispossessed before he could set in his shot.

Wycombe ended City's pressure with a counter-attack that almost earned them a 40th-minute lead. Terry Reardon striking a curving drive from 25 yards that Irwin, at full stretch, fingertipped for a corner.

But City took the lead two minutes before the end of a very evenly matched first half. The creator was Anderson, wandering once again to the right, and the scorer was TONY EVANS.

Anderson linked with Dwyer on a throw-in, cut inside full back Bullock to Evans, a centre that Evans met squarely with his head up an accurate through ball some eight yards out.

Maskell did well to parry the effort, but Evans following through, stabbed home the rebound to continue his remarkable sequence of 11 goals in the last 14 games.

H—Cardiff City 1, Wycombe Wanderers 0.

Wycombe, justifiably aggrieved at being a goal down, launched a series of let-off with a right flank break.

Four corners within the first four minutes of the restart. Dead ball expert Horseman took them all, and Irwin had the near post, and Alston, moving in behind him, just managed to push the ball over his bar.

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### SMART STOP

Alston, picking up a neat pass from the hard working Livermore, blasted a left-footed shot from 20 yards that Maskell turned behind in full flight.

The 'keeper made another smart stop from an angled Evans drive in the 54th minute, before Birdseye hastily conceded a corner as Evans looked for the rebound.

Searching passes from Wycombe link man Reardon failed to break down a much tighter City rearguard. After 65 minutes Wanderers introduced substitute David Alexander for the 34-year-old Horseman.

City began to take command in midfield and produced some attractive play to warm the fans on a bitter afternoon. Some of the flicks and back heels notably by Reece, Evans and Alston, who played with cheeky confidence.

Alston was inches too high with a spectacular overhead kick. Dwyer saw his near-post header deflected for a corner, and Anderson lifted a rising shot over the top.

Alston appealed unsuccessfully when he seemed to be fouled as he slipped past Delaney, but in the 75th minute the Australian international busted through to aim a stunning left footer that Maskell failed to hold. Birdseye scrambled clear.

Anderson wasted a golden opportunity to put the match beyond Wycombe's reach in the 75th minute. He picked up an intended back pass by Mead but chipped his goal effort straight at the keeper. Irwin's courageous save denied the visitors an equaliser.

User three minutes later. Welshman Anthony ran into space for a pass by Alexander but Irwin saw the danger and left his line to smother at the substitute's feet.

Wanderers continued to push forward for the goal to force a Wednesday replay and Kennedy's cross shot glanced off a City defender for a corner. Horseman was not there to take it and City cleared.

The spirited late rally failed to bring Wycombe any reward, and it was Livermore, blocking an intended clearance, who almost doubled City's score in the 85th minute, the ball ballooning off him on to the roof of the Wycombe net.

Attendance: 11,607